

## Message Text

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SUBJECT: SENATOR KENNEDY'S PRESS RELEASE, JANUARY 9, 1978  
IN HONG KONG

CONVEY VERBATIM FOLLOWING TEXT TO SENATOR'S OFFICE FOR  
RELEASE IN WASHINGTON, D.C.:

BEGIN TEXT.

"I CAME TO CHINA TO HOLD DISCUSSIONS ON A BROAD RANGE  
OF INTERNATIONAL ISSUES OF CONCERN TO BOTH OF OUR COUNTRIES  
AND PEOPLES. I MET WITH CHINESE LEADERS DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE  
FOR THESE ISSUES: VICE CHAIRMAN TENG HSIAO-PING, FOREIGN  
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MINISTER HUANG HUA, MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE LI CHIANG,  
AND OF COURSE MY HOSTS AT THE CHINESE PEOPLE'S INSTITUTE OF  
FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

I LEAVE CHINA MORE COMMITTED THAN EVER TO HELPING MOVE  
FORWARD THE PROCESS OF NORMALIZING RELATIONS BETWEEN THE  
UNITED STATES AND CHINA.

IT IS A TRAGEDY OF HISTORY THAT NORMAL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS HAVE BEEN INTERRUPTED BETWEEN US FOR ALMOST 30 YEARS.

FOR OVER 10 YEARS, I HAVE CALLED FOR FULL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES. SINCE THE HOPEFUL OPENING IN 1972, WE HAVE HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO ESTABLISH NORMAL AND ENDURING RELATIONS NOT JUST OF BILATERAL SIGNIFICANCE, BUT OF GLOBAL IMPORTANCE. WE SHOULD NOT LOSE THIS HISTORIC AND STRATEGIC OPPORTUNITY. ON THE BASIS OF MY DISCUSSIONS, I BELIEVE THE CHINESE SHARE THIS VIEW AND THIS HOPE FOR EARLY NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS.

I AM CONVINCED OF THE COMMON DESTINY OF OUR TWO PEOPLES. WE HAVE IMPORTANT DIFFERENCE OF PRINCIPLE. BUT NO ONE SHOULD FORGET THE FUNDAMENTAL TRANSFORMATION OF OUR RELATIONS FROM CONFRONTATION AND MUTUAL ISOLATION, IN THE 1950'S AND 1960'S, TO LIMITED COOPERATION AND PARALLEL ACTION TODAY.

THE FACTS THAT CHINA AND JAPAN NOW ENJOY FRIENDLY RELATIONS FOR THE FIRST TIME IN OVER A CENTURY, AND THAT BOTH THESE NATIONS ARE ALSO FRIENDLY TO THE UNITED STATES, ARE IMPORTANT AND ENCOURAGING DEVELOPMENTS  
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FOR THE FUTURE PEACE AND PROSPERITY OF BOTH ASIA AND THE WORLD.

THE KEY OBSTACLE TO NORMALIZATION IS THE FUTURE OF THE 16 MILLION PEOPLE ON TAIWAN. I DID NOT EXPECT AND CANNOT REPORT PROGRESS IN RESOLVING THAT ISSUE. BUT I BELIEVE THE CHINESE HAVE A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE VIEW PREVAILING IN AMERICA -- WHICH I SHARE -- THAT TAIWAN SHOULD ENJOY A PEACEFUL AND PROSPEROUS FUTURE. AND I, FOR MY PART, HAVE A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE CHINESE VIEW.

CLEARLY, FURTHER DISCUSSIONS WILL BE NEEDED TO RESOLVE CONTINUING DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE AMERICAN AND THE CHINESE POSITIONS ON TAIWAN. BUT SURELY IT IS ONE OF THE GREAT ANOMOLIES OF OUR FOREIGN POLICY THAT THE UNITED STATES HAS NOT YET ESTABLISHED DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH PEKING -- INCREASINGLY A POWER OF GLOBAL PROPORTIONS, AND WITH MANY YEARS OF EFFECTIVE CONTROL OVER THE 900 MILLION PEOPLE ON THE MAINLAND OF CHINA.

I ALSO BELIEVE THAT WE AND THE CHINESE SHARE AN INTEREST IN CREATING A POSITIVE POLITICAL CLIMATE IN WHICH NORMALIZATION CAN TAKE PLACE. EXCHANGES OF VISITS AND MEETINGS OF LEADERS IN THEMSELVES MAKE A CONTRIBUTION. THE CONTINUED DRAWDOWN OF U.S. MILITARY FORCES AND OF THE OFFICIAL U.S. PRESENCE ON TAIWAN IS AN IMPORTANT ELEMENT. SO IS THE EXPANSION OF TRADE AND COOPERATION ON AN INCREASING NUMBER OF LEVELS BETWEEN OUR TWO SOCIETIES.

WHILE IN CHINA, I SUGGESTED THAT THE UNITED STATES SUPPLY ADVANCED OIL TECHNOLOGY TO CHINA IN EXCHANGE FOR A SHARE OF CHINESE OIL PRODUCTION.

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ON HUMANITARIAN GROUNDS, I ASKED THE CHINESE LEADERS TO CONSIDER A NUMBER OF REQUESTS BY THEIR CITIZENS TO VISIT THEIR RELATIVES IN THE UNITED STATES. IN SHANGHAI, I WAS ABLE TO VISIT ONE SUCH FAMILY WITH RELATIVES IN MY OWN STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS.

AND I URGED THE CHINESE LEADERS TO CONSIDER SIX PROPOSALS BY THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES FOR NEW COOPERATIVE EFFORTS IN THE FIELD OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, INCLUDING EXCHANGES OF EXPERTS AND DATA IN THE CRUCIAL FIELD OF CANCER RESEARCH.

I AM HOPEFUL THAT THE CHINESE WILL GIVE FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION TO THESE VARIOUS PROPOSALS. ALREADY IN PEKING, WE WERE TOLD BY THE PEKING PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA THAT IT WOULD LIKE TO SEND FIVE OR SIX CHINESE MUSICIANS TO JOIN THE BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA NEXT SUMMER AT TANGLEWOOD - AN IMPORTANT STEP IN THE CULTURAL FIELD.

I ALSO DEVOTED A SUBSTANTIAL PROPORTION OF MY DISCUSSIONS WITH CHINESE LEADERS TO THE CURRENT WORLD SITUATION. WE NOW SHARE MANY COMMON PERSPECTIVES, NOT LEAST THE IMPORTANCE OF A STRONG UNITED STATES AND WESTERN EUROPE AS WELL AS A SECURE AND PROSPEROUS JAPAN. I TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO DESCRIBE EXTENSIVELY FOR THE CHINESE THE MANY STRENGTHS WE SHARE WITH OUR ALLIES IN THE POLITICAL, MILITARY AND ECONOMIC FIELDS -- IN CONTRAST TO THEIR VIEW OF WEAKNESSES IN THE POSITION OF THE WEST.

I BELIEVE THE UNITED STATES AND CHINA SHOULD WORK HARD TO EXPAND THE SCOPE OF OUR DIALOGUE AND  
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OF OUR COOPERATION ON GLOBAL ISSUES. AS CHINESE POWER INCREASES, I AM CONVINCED THAT IT CAN AND SHOULD BE AN INFLUENCE FOR PEACE AND FOR PROGRESS IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS.

FINALLY, AND EQUALLY IMPORTANT, I CAME TO CHINA TO LEARN AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE, WITHIN TWO SHORT WEEKS, ABOUT THE COUNTRY AND THE CHINESE PEOPLE. I MADE EFFORTS TO MEET WITH WORKERS IN FACTORIES AND COMMUNES, STUDENTS IN UNIVERSITIES, INMATES IN PRISONS.

TWO WEEKS MAKE NO ONE AN EXPERT ON ANY COUNTRY, ESPECIALLY ONE AS LARGE AND DIVERSE AS CHINA. BUT AFTER MONTHS OF DISCUSSION AND REFLECTION BEFORE THE TRIP -- AND OUR EXPERIENCES DURING IT -- I COME AWAY WITH TWO SOMEWHAT CONTRASTING SETS OF IMPRESSIONS.

ON THE ONE HAND, CHINA REMAINS A DEVELOPING COUNTRY, ONE WITH IMMENSE ECONOMIC CHALLENGES BEFORE IT. IT REMAINS VERY MUCH A CLOSED SOCIETY, WITH STRICTLY LIMITED FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION. AND ITS IDEOLOGICAL COMMITMENT REMAINS CONTRARY TO OUR OWN.

ON THE OTHER HAND, I AM STRUCK BY THE STRONG COMMITMENT OF THE CHINESE PEOPLE TO MODERNIZATION. I COME AWAY WITH AN OVERALL SENSE THAT CHINA IS A NATION THAT CAN MAKE IT AS A MODERN INDUSTRIALIZED STATE IN THE FUTURE, IF IT CAN AVOID THE SOCIAL AND POLITICAL UPHEAVALS THAT HAVE THREATENED IT IN RECENT YEARS.

IT IS VERY LIKELY THAT CHINA WILL BE AN INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT FACTOR IN THE HISTORY OF THIS CENTURY AND THE NEXT. THE GOAL OF OUR LEADERS AND CHINESE LEADERS SHOULD BE THAT CHINA USES ITS

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GROWING INTERNATIONAL WEIGHT FOR CONSTRUCTIVE PURPOSES. THE UNITED STATES SHOULD MOVE QUICKLY AND RESPONSIBLY TO NORMALIZE THE RELATIONS THAT WERE INTERRUPTED, MORE THAN A QUARTER-CENTURY AGO, BETWEEN THE WORLD'S MOST POPULOUS NATION AND THE WORLD'S MOST POWERFUL NATION. WHEN I RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES, I WILL WORK TO HELP ADVANCE THESE

IMPORTANT OBJECTIVES, WHICH ARE IN THE BEST  
INTERESTS OF BOTH OUR COUNTRIES."

END TEXT. SHOESMITH UNQTE VANCE

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